

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Original) A valve intended for installation in the inlet of a thermostatic mixing device, characterized in that it comprises a tubular body intended to be inserted in or constitute part of a pipe or connection for water supply, a holding seat presented by said body, a cursor that can be moved in said body with respect to said seat between a first position in which it at least partly occludes said seat and a second position in which it leaves said seat substantially clear, said cursor being subjected, on the one hand, to the pressure of the water supply pipeline and, on the other hand, to the pressure existing inside the thermostatic mixing device, and a spring that works on said cursor, pushing it toward the occlusion position, said spring being dimensioned so that the cursor, with respect to the seat, will assume a position that brings about a reduced passage cross-section under conditions involved in the water supply of an apparatus that has a low degree of absorption and in which, with respect to the seat, it assumes a position causing a large passage cross-section under conditions involved in the water supply of apparatuses featuring a total high absorption.

2. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 1, characterized in that the cursor in said first position totally occludes said seat so that the valve will also work as a nonreturn valve.

3. (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising an element intended to act as a nonreturn valve is, the element being attached to the cursor and inserted in it within the tubular body.

4. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 3, characterized in that said element, functioning as a nonreturn valve, consists of a flexible and elastic membrane, arranged so as to occlude at least one passage opening, while the flow tends to assume a direction opposite to the normal direction.

5. (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to ~~one of Claims~~ Claim 1 ~~to 4~~, characterized in that said cursor has at least one opening with small dimensions, intended to permit the passage of a flow rate sufficient only to supply an apparatus with low absorption.

6. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 5, characterized in that at least one opening with small dimensions is permanently pervious.

7. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 5, characterized in that said opening, at least having small dimensions, is situated in the first position up the line from said seat and becomes pervious only when the cursor undergoes a minor shift toward its second position.

8. (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to ~~one of Claims~~ Claim 1 ~~to 4~~, characterized in that said cursor presents openings with large dimensions, situated in the first position or in a position close to [it] said first position up the line from said seat, which belong pervious when the cursor shifts towards its second position or reaches said second position [it].

9. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 8, characterized in that said openings with large dimensions have a tapered form so as to become pervious in an increasing manner, along with the increase in the shift of the cursor from the first position to the second position.

10. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 9, characterized in that said openings with the tapered shape are situated in the first position entirely up the line from said seat so that the valve will also work as a nonreturn valve.

11. (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to ~~one of Claims~~ Claim 2 ~~1 to 11~~, characterized in that said cursor has a holding packing, acting in the first position with respect to said seat, and whose removal, when the cursor is shifted toward the second position, clears wide passage cross-sections.

12. (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to ~~one of Claims~~ Claim 1 to 4, characterized in that mounted in said cursor is a known flow rate regulator whose substantially constant flow rate is adapted to the anticipated supply flow rate of an apparatus with low absorption.

13. (Original) Automatic valve according to Claim 12, characterized in that said flow rate regulator is of a type provided with means that act as nonreturn valve.

14 (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to one of ~~the preceding claims~~ Claims 1, 2, 4 or 9, characterized by its installation in both water supply pipelines of a thermostatic mixing device.

15 (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to one of ~~Claims 1 to 13~~ Claims 1, 2, 4 or 9, characterized by its installation in only one of the water supply pipelines of a thermostatic mixing device.

16. (Currently Amended) The automatic valve according to ~~Claim 15~~ one of Claims 1, 2, 4, or 9, characterized by its installation in the cold water supply pipeline going to a thermostatic mixing device.

17. (Cancelled).